

**FREDERICK COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING MINUTES
DEPARTMENT OF AGING
February 9, 2015**

COA MEMBERS	DOA STAFF	EXCUSED	UNEXCUSED	GUESTS
Mary Beachley	Kitty Devilbiss	Joy Hall-Onley	Don Cilla	Bernadine Hoffman
John Brown	Mary Feaster		John Hannan	Dianne Lewis
Elizabeth Chung	Sue Ramsburg			Louise Lynch
Ernell Graham	Pat Rosensteel			Lauren Naill
Carol Haag	Kathy Schey			Frank Oben
Ann Holiday	Steve Stoyke			Ashley Graham Pletcher
M.C. Keegan-Ayers	Carolyn True			Tish Raff
Tom Lawler				Joyce Raine
Randy McClement, Mayor				
Katie Rhinehart-Hemler				
Virginia Skelley				
Roberta Speace				
Cynthia White				

- I. **Call to Order** – Carol Haag called the meeting to order at 1:03pm.
- II. **Welcome & Introductions** – Carol welcomed all attendees. Guests were present at today's meeting so introductions were done around the table
- III. **Action on the Agenda** – Ann Holiday would like to report on the recent Guardianship meeting. This will be added to the report section of today's meeting. Carol would like to add something to the Old Business section of today's meeting. She would like an update

on the Senior Leadership Team. She would also like to discuss any update regarding the CCRC/Montevue situation.

- IV. Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of the December 8th meeting were approved. Ginny made a motion to approve the minutes and John Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- V. Mayor's Report** – Mayor Randy McClement stated that the City is currently working on the budget. He is in the early stages and it does not look encouraging. There is a significant difference between revenue and requests. He spoke briefly about the recent shooting at Frederick High School. There was a large amount of support from the community and affected school students. The investigation is ongoing. He briefly discussed weather as it relates to the budget. It is considerably over expended. The hope is for no more sizeable snow events, but the City does have an agreement with the County and can borrow salt/supplies which they would then replenish/restock.

The idea of a park specific for senior use was originally suggested by Sue Paul from the Baker Rehab group. The suggested site is the Monocacy Village Park. There is a good amount of support from local agencies. Carol Haag sent an email to Sue expressing CoA support for this proposal. There was a letter in opposition to the park from Linda Teodosio who works with a geriatric rehab group at FMH. Linda had multiple concerns regarding safety, dignity, and funding. Sue addressed each of these points in the correspondence which Carol Haag read to the members and asked for comment/input. Katie made a motion to reaffirm the CoA support for this concept. Carol seconded this motion. All were in favor. Carolyn stated that the Dept of Aging sent a letter of support as well. Mayor McClement stated that the city is in support of the idea.

Councilmen's Report – M.C. Keegan-Ayers, Vice President of the new County Council, was present at today's meeting. She stated that the Senior Task Force is working hard. The Council is waiting on the budget from the County Executive.

- VI. Mission Moment, Steve Stoyke, MoW Case Manager and Mary Feaster, MoW Outreach Worker**– Steve and Mary were present at today's meeting to discuss their roles in the MoW program. Mary is the point of contact for clients who are interested in receiving the meals. She receives applications from LTC facilities, the hospital and sometimes the family. Mary then gives the information to Steve who makes arrangements to visit the home and do a general assessment. Steve is a LPN and can assess the home situation in a clinical way. He states that the program works with many other local agencies and he sometimes makes referrals to those agencies. There is a lot of

documentation done. Once the need is determined, Mary gets the application back and reviews the routes for availability. The maximum number of clients per route is ten. Part of the reason for this is the need to keep the food at safe temperatures. The program has a valuable group of volunteers who are sometimes the main contact the client has during the day. If there is an issue, the volunteer will call Mary who will then call the emergency/family contact to alert them to the situation. After some demographic discussion, Elizabeth offered to work with Mary and Steve to reach out to communities who may present a language/cultural barrier. Steve also does a monthly program referred to as "Ask Nurse Steve" which is popular at the senior centers and other senior sites.

VII. Business Task Force Update Tom Lawler – This group was formed as a result of the Needs Assessment. It is a combined effort by the CoA, DoA, and Chamber of Commerce. Their focus is on caregiving and support of caregivers. There is a need to raise awareness of the needs of caregivers and how this may affect their productivity in the work environment. This group has suggested the need for a single professionally produced flyer to be available in local libraries and agencies. Katie and the Elder Services Provider Council are assisting with this project. There will also be a symposium on May 8th at the Frederick Senior Center to raise awareness in the business community. Jenny Morgan with the Chamber will line up speakers who may discuss best practices for businesses to use to support their employees. At the last meeting another issue discovered is the discharge instructions at the hospital typically refer someone to LTC when home care and/or assisted living may suffice. There may be some education needed for discharge planners and possibly the physicians in the future.

2015 Retreat Postponement, Carol Haag – This retreat was postponed. A Senior Leadership group was appointed by the County Executive to review senior issues. It would be better to have this retreat after the recommendations come from this group. Ginny will continue the work on the revisions to the CoA by-laws. Pat Rosensteel will assist. Elizabeth and Tish had agreed to work on a public policy committee. Carol circulated the committee descriptions around so members could decide what they would like to work on.

Meeting Schedule, Carol Haag – The March 9th and April 13th meetings will be held at the Frederick Senior Center. The plan is to have the May meeting at Winchester Hall. This meeting would be held on May 11th. Perhaps the focus of this meeting could be the "Village" concept. May is Older Americans month.

USM Rally, January 2015, Carol Haag – Carol, Louise Lynch, and Tish Raff attended this rally. The USM presented their legislative priorities for this session. Carol reviewed these priorities. This was an opportunity to meet with people in other parts of the state. Many of the needs found in the Needs Assessment are the same as other areas of the state. There was a good delegation turnout. The USM group meets on the third Monday of each month. This Commission needs of a new representative for this association.

Director's Report, Carolyn True - Carolyn reviewed the 2% FY 2015 budget reduction for the Department. There are three grant programs that the Maryland Dept of Aging can take the 2% reduction in. These are the Group Senior Assisted Housing grant, Senior Care grant, and the Guardianship grant. The Frederick County Dept of Aging receives only two of these grants. We will be taking a reduction in the Senior Care program and the Guardianship program.

There are some appeals for the 2016 County budget. The total request is \$262,000.

- The Maryland Access Point Program is being eliminated as the end of this fiscal year. One is a request is to maintain that program.
- A second request is for funds to cover the Senior Care personnel expenses.
- There is a request for two additional positions. Those positions requests are for an additional Program Specialist position and a Volunteer Coordinator position.

Carolyn would appreciate support and advocacy for these requests from this Commission. Carolyn will send out more information to CoA members so they have direction for their advocating and support.

Kathy Schey distributed some statistical information that is specific to Frederick County. There will be a large increase in the older adult population in Frederick County over the next twenty-five years. The Dept of Aging not only serves this population, but also the individuals with disabilities population who may need assistance with Medicare options and other programs. The Dept also serves a large caregiving population who are caring for family members who are ill and/or aging. Kathy went over the federal and state mandates and how they will affect the services that the Dept of Aging will need to provide. When someone's housing costs is more than thirty percent of their income, they are considered housing cost burdened. In Frederick County, of citizens 65 and older, 26.5% of homeowners and 57.1% of renters are housing cost burdened.

Carolyn recognized the nursing students who are attending today's meeting. They will be working with Dept of Aging staff through April. Mary Beachley is their professor. Some of them will be attending these meetings. They are working with MoW staff and helped with the most recent food distribution.

MoW Middletown Route Update, Kitty Devilbiss – Kitty was not able to attend today's meeting. Carolyn reported that Steve will be interviewing three to five new clients to receive meals in 2-3 weeks. It will be a very scattered route, the volunteers are ready to go. The churches in the area are managing this specific program. Bernadine Hoffman was at today's meeting and works with the MoW route in Crestwood Village. On this route, there is a pilot program which allows people coming out of the hospital to go right into the program for 2 to 3 weeks.

VIII. Letter of Support for Senior Center Plus, Carol Haag

Carol submitted a letter of support for this concept as requested by Elizabeth. A copy of this letter was sent out to members via email last month. At this time, Carol suggested a letter of support be submitted by this Commission to maintain the State subsidy for the Daybreak Adult Daycare facility. Bobbie Speace will draft this letter.

2/9/15

- IX. Nominations, Katie Rhinehart-Hemler** – There is some unfinished business from previous meetings. The following votes were taken at today's meeting. Carol Haag was elected to continue as the Chair of this Commission. All were in favor, no one opposed. Ernell Graham was elected to continue as the Vice Chair of this Commission. All were in favor, no one opposed.

Adult Disabled Review Board, Ann Holiday – Ann attended the most recent meeting for this Board. For all the cases that were presented, the Board recommended guardianship be continued.

Partners in Care, Ernell Graham – Ernell gave a brief report for this agency. She went over a six month fiscal report and recent statistics of volunteer hours/services. She brought some brochures to today's meeting for anyone who is not aware of the program and their mission. The budget was not available at today's meeting. This is an important agency which provides a lot of assistance to the older population.

State Commission on Aging, Louise Lynch – Louise stated that the Commission did not meet in January. The first meeting will be held on February 11th. The new Secretary of the MD Dept of Aging will be at this meeting. She does not have a background in aging.

- X. Announcements** – The Senior Leadership team will be conducting a meeting on February 11 at the Frederick Senior Center. This is an information gathering event. All the information from all meetings will be combined and presented to the County Executive. February 24th is the tentative date for all groups to present their information.

Elizabeth announced that there will be a Chinese New Year celebration to be held at the Urbana Senior center next Tuesday, February 19th from 6pm to 7:30pm.

Pat stated that the County Executive is very interested in input from everyone regarding education, community needs, jobs, and seniors. You can leave suggestions on the County website.

M. C. Keegan-Ayers stated that the County Council can not add to the budget. Only the County Executive can add.

- XI. Public Comment** – No public comment

The meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick County Commission on Aging
2/9/15

Susan M. Ramsburg
Recording Secretary